

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

DISTRICT 1

TOM BLAINE, P.E.
NEW MEXICO STATE ENGINEER

5550 San Antonio Drive, N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109 (505) 383-4000

May 18, 2017

File No.: 1605 and B-28

Homestake Mining Company c/o Thomas Wohlford P.O. Box 98 Grants, NM 87020

RE: PLUGGING PLAN OF OPERATION B-28 (OLD #1)

Mr. Wohlford,

On May 11, 2017 the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) received a "Plugging Plan of Operations" for the plugging and abandonment of B-28 (aka HMC OLD#1). The details of the plan identify the driller will plug the well from 0-feet to 420-feet below ground surface. A search for the well record at the OSE has been trivial as to the total depth of the well but all information indicates the total depth of the well is at least 863-feet. Further action is needed to complete the plan.

1. <u>NMAC 19.27.4.37</u> allows for a Request for Variance. The Plugging Plan did not contain a request to deviate from the requirements to plug the well from the total depth to the surface. A detailed description of the methods and materials with alternatives to plug the well according to state statutes from the bottom up must accompany the plugging plan.

Please note that as a condition of approval for the plugging of B-28 (HMC Old #1), OSE personnel will be required to witness the plugging.

Sincerely

Christopher Burrus

Water Resource Specialist Albuquerque, OSE, District 1

C: CB/cb Cc: WRAB;

William Pearson, NMED, MECS